

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

WALTER G. SMITH—EDITOR.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1900.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

Interest in the Boer war turns again to General Buller who is finding the road to Ladysmith no primrose path of dalliance. Accomplished as this soldier is and brave as his men assuredly are they cannot do miracles; and to force the passes of a range of mountains which bristles with well-served guns and conceals some thousands of the best marksmen of the world is a task beyond the average capacity of Generals who stand in the front rank. It was noticeable in Napoleon's campaigns that he rarely ventured to make war among mountains and when compelled to do so, as in Spain, did not add to his laurels. It was his strategy to lure armies out of the hills and entrenched cities and meet them on the open plains where the best maneuvering would win. In later wars attacks on strong positions, especially on high ground, have been productive of discouraging results in all cases where the defending force was ample and knew its business. How the Union soldiers were sacrificed in assaults at Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, Petersburg and Port Hudson and the Confederates at Malvern Hill and Gettysburg; how Lieben was checked at Plevna and Shipka pass and kept there until he substituted strategy for charging columns; how the Boers have held out against the British on the Tugela and the British against the Boers at Ladysmith, Mafeking and Kimberley, are circumstances which ought to rule attempts to storm strong and well-manned defensive positions out of the code of civilized warfare, and bring about the substitution of strategy and siege.

Happily the strategic recourse is now being followed by the British General-in-Chief. His march on Bloemfontein has no more important object than to weaken the force confronting Buller and to compel the abandonment of the mountain range between Natal and the Orange Free State. If Roberts reaches Bloemfontein, invests it and starts a second army corps northward on the line of the railroad to Pretoria, the mountains which Buller is trying to scale will of course have to be evacuated by Joubert's army. Already many Boers have left them; perhaps enough have by this time hurried to meet Roberts to render the task which Buller has set for himself less desperate than it has been hitherto.

The crucial point in the present British campaign ought to be reached very soon. A new point of contact must soon appear in the vicinity of Bloemfontein and the numerical odds in favor of Roberts will not be so great as they were at Paardeberg. The strength of the Boers in the Free State is supposed to be about the same as that of Roberts' present corps. It is possible the Boers will shut themselves up in Bloemfontein, in which case Lord Roberts will have something of the same kind of a problem to deal with that Buller is meeting on the Tugela. It will probably please him better if the Boers choose to come out in the open and fight, but one may safely imagine that they will be too wary for that.

THE PORTO RICO VOTE.

The Porto Rico tariff bill has passed the House by a small majority and has yet to run the gauntlet of a vote in the Senate. If it becomes a law it will, by automatic process, establish Porto Rico as a colony. Organized as a Territory, Porto Rico could not be discriminated against in the United States tariff or permitted to have a tariff of its own. The Constitution on that point is clear. But colonialism established Porto Rico could go along under the same fiscal and other relations with the United States that Jamaica bears towards Great Britain.

The relation which the enactment of the Porto Rico tariff bill would have to the future of Hawaii depends on the fate of the Cullom bill. If that measure becomes a law, Hawaii will have the same tariff rights that are enjoyed by Arizona and New Mexico. That is to say our imports or exports from and to the United States cannot be taxed. On the other hand if the Cullom bill should fail, Hawaii would probably fall into the colonial class with Porto Rico, Guam, Tutuila and the Philippines and possibly Alaska. So organized our sugar would be made to pay duty on the mainland and our labor would be left to our own methods of regulation. Whatever gain might accrue from the last-named privilege would be more than counterbalanced by the loss in the selling profits of the island staple.

Happily the Cullom bill seems to be holding its ground and, at last accounts, with favorable prospects for the future.

HAPPENINGS OF PLAGUE.

The anticipations of the Board of Health that there would be more plague cases were realized yesterday. A Chinese victim was found in the narrow lane leading to the slaughterhouse. Sanitary conditions there are most unsatisfactory, the stables being carried on by Chinamen in the usual filthy way. Opposite is a large shack used as a gambling den and for worse purposes. As people from the stables visit the den and people from the den return the stables, it is not improbable that a new center of infection has been developed which will soon call for the remedy of fire.

It must have long since occurred to the general public that there is imminent need of special laws governing the construction and location of stables in this city. As a plague center the average Honolulu stable belongs to the most serious type. For want of concrete floors, drains to carry away liquids and some proper and immediate disposition of manure, and because of attractions such places have for rats, both brute and human, livery stables and barns require a classification of their own in the building regulations of Honolulu. Without attempting to go into all the details, we think it would be practicable to banish public stables to the extreme outskirts of the city and require them to maintain certain standards of cleanliness. Owing to the telephone and the ease with which stables may maintain offices in the heart of the town, no injury need accrue to the business of liverymen by compelling them to take their barns and stock into the suburbs. In the case of the Chinese stables, now in quarantine, their location would have been fairly suitable, save for the proximity to the jail; but with the average livery stable the position is quite different.

It is, of course, a matter of the deepest regret that another plague case has cut the record of clean days, but a study of the schematic chart published in these columns last week shows that the pestilence is really at a low ebb and may soon be expected to disappear. The only thing to do is to continue the fight, remove possible centers of infection, extirpate plague spots, keep the town clean and prevent the erection of insanitary shacks.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The science of government is a study of the ages but that of municipal government is comparatively new. It is only of late that the danger to the whole body politic from the dry rot of great cities began to attract the eye of the political student. In the United States municipal methods were not seriously pondered until New York City supplied an incentive in the Tweed scandals; and then began a ferment of ideas which early took the concrete form of the Brooklyn City Charter and finally produced a large number of excellent laws for the government of cities of which the Charter of San Francisco is perhaps the latest type.

It is a recognition of the fact that the scandals of city administration have mainly come of divided responsibility that most of the reform charters turn on the pivot of one-man power. It was found that city departments answerable in the main to themselves and remotely to the grand jury, with the Mayor restricted to an advisory capacity or given a limited and overruling right of veto, easily bred bad government. When things went wrong to one could be punished. Usually there was a ring which took a hand in all schemes of plunder but in which not a single member had so exceeded the rest in wrong-doing that, when exposure came, he could be segregated and put in jail; nor was it possible, owing to peculiarities in the charter, to punish all together. The result was a saturnalia of misrule in which one offender hid behind another and all skulked behind a cross-screen made of the reddest of red tape.

Citizens who wanted reform and who believed it possible soon hit upon the expedient of one-man power. Of course there was a tremendous outcry from the political beasts of prey. Every scawag in politics inveighed against "aristocracy" and "tyranny" in the veriest cant of socialism. It was pointed out that a Mayor with all the say would be un-American—a graft from Old World despotism and an offense to representative government. For years the argument prevailed, but as the scandals of city government went from bad to worse the people determined to try the plan of concentrated responsibility. "Let us frame a charter," they said, "that will give the Mayor power to appoint and remove the heads of municipal departments. We can then look to him for good government and if he does not give it to us he will at least be unable to shift the responsibility upon other shoulders. We can hold one man to account and compel him to do right or take the risk of impeachment."

Brooklyn was among the first to get a reform charter and a Mayor to match. The incumbent was the famous Seth Low, now president of Columbia University. After taking his seat he picked out the best men he could find to take charge of the municipal departments and as a first step

towards securing concentrated work required each one to hand in his resignation with the date left blank. These resignations were filed away to be drawn upon when needed. Then all hands went to work on the principle of economy, retrenchment and reform with the result that Brooklyn became as famous in America for good government as Glasgow was in Europe.

The pace having been set, nearly all American cities which have gone in at all for municipal reform have copied the Brooklyn organization. Greater New York has had to have a more complex system, somewhat resembling the government of a State, but the idea of one-man power has been measurably preserved. Mayor Van Wyck has more personal authority within his sphere than Queen Victoria has in hers. In the latest charter, that of San Francisco, Mayor Phelan exercises responsibilities of the most definite character. He appoints and dismisses and so far, as in the other cases of one-man authority, he has conserved the ends of good government. For the first time in its history San Francisco is a city where there is a direct relation between the amount of money raised by tax and the sum judiciously and honestly expended.

Honolulu is nearing the time when the uppermost question is to be the municipal one. Whether the islands are organized as a Colony or a Territory, the cities and towns of the group must have home rule. The era of elaborate paternalism has been outlived. It behooves us all, therefore, to go into the study of modern municipal charters with thoroughness and zeal so as to reach a reasoned judgment when the time comes to adopt a local system. Especially should we consider the question of an autocratic Mayor in the light of our peculiar social development and racial surroundings. The reasons for and against should be carefully weighed. It is a propitious sign that we are beginning to have lectures on municipal government, but a proper state of public spirit will not be reached until the subject becomes absorbing enough to enlist all the best minds in the country of whatever shade of politics.

COOPER ON KAUI.

The people of Kauai are indignant that H. E. Cooper should have been permitted to leave here for that island without undergoing the quarantine which he and his fellow-members of the Board of Health impose upon other people. It is a feeling, we are bound to say, that many Honolulu citizens share. So desirable is it that the plague should not get lodgement among the other islands, where Asiatics are many and medical men few, that nothing but supreme necessity should lead the Board of Health to permit a single instance of personal intercommunication without quarantine restrictions and safeguards. Furthermore it is not for that body to set an example of disobedience to its own rules. Possibly, in the case of Mr. Cooper, the supreme necessity existed, in which event, no doubt, he will come to the rescue of the Board with public explanations. We have read that Mr. Cooper, some days before he left for Kauai on his mysterious errand, tried to have the quarantine modified so as to confine only laboring men within its limits while giving what he described as "the best people" or "the better class of people" freedom of movement. If that rule had been adopted Mr. Cooper could not now be justly criticised for going to Kauai, but it was rejected, and under such circumstances the only excuse for Mr. Cooper is the supreme necessity we have referred to. Did such necessity exist? Was there any mandatory public need which required the immediate presence of Mr. Cooper on the Garden Island? People living there seem to be incredulous on that point, some going so far as to impute speculative or political motives to the visit. Upon the justice of this view we cannot presume to pass but if it is not the proper one surely Mr. Cooper owes the reputation of the Board of Health and the natural solicitude of the public an explanation. The injurious theories raised ought to be explained away if possible and Mr. Cooper now has the floor, if he desires it, for that purpose.

Few people who know all the circumstances will agree with Colonel Bird, late of Manila, that the authorities were wrong in declaring this an infected port. In the first place, the port was and to some extent is, infected, declaration or no declaration. Secondly, if the authorities had not acted as they did and made proper safeguards, all Coast ports might have been closed against Hawaiian sugar ships. It was the thorough and drastic handling of the plague from the first that gave outsiders confidence and preserved our export trade. In a phrase we chose a lesser financial evil to escape a greater one.

If you want to travel in these parts or go to the Coast the Board of Health has provided a way. Accept an injection of plague prophylactic and stay under observation seven days. If you live you may then go where you please; if you don't you won't care to travel anyhow.

UNDESIRABLE GUESTS.

It will be a grievous from the police point of view when enough average accommodations may be had to enable a small crowd of beachcombers and other adventurers, who are detested by the lack of them, to leave for the Coast. Many of these people want to get away and can't. They form an idle and troublesome class to whom the mind naturally turns when stories of burglaries and hold-ups are reported. In a town so big as this one, such people are difficult to watch. Under ordinary circumstances of sea transit they would soon make themselves scarce, the opportunities for men of their class being better on the Coast than they are here. But with sea transit limited they are compelled to stay and while in port they naturally do a great deal of mischief.

At present the evil is one to be endured and, so far as possible, guarded against by the extra vigilance of police and citizens. But every augury of the disappearance of the plague is made the more cheerful by the fact that it brings the day nearer when the human flotsam and jetsam now gathered on the beach may be removed, and when Honolulu may, so far as infractions of the criminal law are concerned, resume its customary immunities.

The German iconoclasts who went to hear and hiss the Kaiser's new play at Berlin seem to have enjoyed the chance to mortify him. Such opportunities, owing to the *lese majeste* laws, are few and far between. Street crowds cannot hiss the Emperor without running risks of a police or cavalry charge; nor are men permitted to disparage his talents in the German press. But when it comes to sitting in a theater and coughing down an Imperial play, the field is wide open. Even the Kaiser could not think of arresting an audience for not liking his dramatic works. Probably the night of the presentation brought out a large body of socialists intent on getting even with their sovereign, a feat which they seem to have easily performed.

The drought in Hawaii may be irksome but it is a minor matter beside that in Southern California, which has lasted for four years. Portions of that fertile region, once classed as good farming country, are said to have become a desert. A great reservoir near San Diego, capable of holding six billion gallons, has been dry and dusty nearly all the time since 1896 and has ceased to be a factor in determining orchard values. At last accounts people living in Southern California had failed to tempt rain from the clouds by artificial means and had fallen back on prayer or emigration according to whether they had to stay in the country or were able to pay their way out.

The names of Justice Frear, A. S. Humphreys and Paul Neumann are mentioned in connection with the present or prospective vacancy on the Supreme bench. The friends of Mr. Frear and of Mr. Neumann want him to succeed Chief Justice Judd, and the friends of Mr. Humphreys, in case of Justice Frear's promotion, desire him to become an Associate Justice. The names are all strong and honorable ones and any selection made from them will be in line with the high traditions of the Hawaiian bench.

The offer of the Bishop Estate to donate land for the extension of Pauahi street to Fort saves legal proceedings and makes the improvement reasonably certain. Not the least gratifying thing about the pledge of gift is the evidence it affords that the Bishop Estate means to do its part in bettering the appearance and sanitation of the city. If it keeps on in this way and makes the best use of its opportunities the Estate will not lack for public appreciation and good-will.

With a speed of ninety miles an hour for the new model automobiles the time is not far distant when even the long-distance railroads will feel the effects of the newest means of rapid transit.

THE CABINET YESTERDAY.

Executive Asks for Details of Board of Health Expenses.

The Cabinet met yesterday at the usual hour. There were present President Dole and Ministers Mott-Smith, Young, Damon and Cooper. The minutes of March 9th were read and approved.

It was voted that Eleanor W. Davies and F. M. Brooks be granted commissions as Notaries Public for the First Judicial Circuit, upon passing satisfactory examinations before the Attorney General.

It was further voted that the Minister of the Interior be authorized to grant a light wine and beer license to K. Wiebke at Nawiliwili, Kauai.

Dr. C. B. Wood, President of the Board of Health, came in, and was asked to give the Executive a statement of the amounts expended by the Board under the appropriations already made by the Council of State, the general running expenses at present and the estimated expenses for the future.

The British bark Helen Denny was 61 days from Newcastle. She has 1,660 tons of coal for W. G. Irwin & Co.

S-S-S For Your Altar and Your Fire.

Patriotism is always commendable, but in every breast there should be not only the desire to be a good citizen, but to be strong, able bodied and well fitted for the battle of life. To do this, pure blood is absolutely necessary, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is the one specific which cleanses the blood thoroughly. It acts equally well for both sexes and all ages.

Humor—"When I need a blood purifier I take Hood's Sarsaparilla. It cures my humor and is excellent as a nerve tonic." Josie Eaton, Stafford Springs, Ct.

Hood's Sarsaparilla
Never Disappoints

Hood's Pills cure liver ills, the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's sarsaparilla.

TELEGRAMS CONDENSED.

News of Coast Files Abbreviated for Quick Reading.

There is mailpox at Truckee, Cal. Newark, N. J., has had a \$1,000,000 fire.

Artist William Stott is dead in London.

Consul Hay's work at Pretoria goes smoothly.

A strike of Chicago machinists is impending.

There is heavy foreign buying in the New York cotton market.

The Rutland Railroad Company has secured an outlet to Montreal.

The sewer pipe makers have formed a combine with \$10,000,000 capital.

A railroad is likely to be built between Salt Lake and Los Angeles.

The battery of 12-inch guns at Fort Point, San Francisco, is now in place.

Archbishop Hennessy of Dubuque, who is a victim of paralysis, is dying.

A great snowstorm in the Middle West has been delaying railroad traffic.

Porto Rico laborers have gone on a strike for a wage scale of 5 cents an hour.

The National Educational Association has met in annual conference at Chicago.

The Third Avenue Railroad Company of New York has defaulted a dividend.

There is strong opposition in the Iowa Legislature to the Hughes anti-pass bill.

A big plant for distilling water for drinking purposes is to be established at Cape Nome.

Gen. W. H. L. Barnes, the San Francisco attorney, has been married to Mrs. Anna Scott.

A rear end collision on the Missouri Pacific road near Independence, Mo., killed three and injured six.

Representative Waters of California has introduced a bill regulating interest in and patents upon oil land.

The House of Commons by a vote of 199 to 175 rejected the second reading of a bill limiting the time of labor of underground miners to eight hours daily.

The managers of the San Francisco Emporium have been robbed of several thousand dollars by the clerks whose duty was to put the payroll money into envelopes.

Ex-Mayor Hugh J. Grant of New York was appointed temporary receiver of the Third Avenue Railroad Company by Judge Lacombe of the United States Court.

The Fifty-fourth Congress passed 378 private pension bills that became laws, and the Fifty-fifth 693. The average increase per each bill in the Fifty-fourth Congress was \$19.74, and for the Fifty-fifth, \$12.55.

The bubonic plague has appeared on the island of Cozumel, off the coast of Yucatan. It was brought from Brazil.

Quarantine officers in Mexico, the Gulf States, Cuba and Porto Rico have been directed to observe strict quarantine.

JAPANESE AGENT HERE.

Comes to Look Into the Fire Losses of His Countrymen.

F. Hirai, secretary of the Trade Bureau of the Foreign Department of the Japanese Government, has been here nearly a month, investigating the losses sustained by Japanese by the sanitary fires. He has been specially sent by his government and will render a full report to it of the results of his inquiries. Hirai was for two years eleven consul to Hawaii when Shimamura was Japanese diplomatic and consular representative.

Hirai's health has been bad since his arrival here and he has been most of the time in the Queen's Hospital. He will return to Japan on the America Maru, due here tomorrow. Yesterday he said that his mission was merely to note the facts and write them out for the Japanese government's information. He had nothing to do with the settlement of claims. He says that there is a general feeling in Japan that the Japanese are discriminated against here and not fairly treated.

CASTRO'S NARROW ESCAPE.

An Attempt to Kill the Venezuelan President.

CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 23.—During the carnival procession yesterday a Venezuelan fired two shots at S. Cripiano Castro without effect. President Castro was afterwards acclaimed by the populace. The city is quiet.

General Cripiano Castro became President of Venezuela in October last as a result of successful revolution against President Andrade, who fled from the republic. But Castro was not recognized as President by the United States until November 20, 1899. He is about 36 years old, is well educated and is credited with being possessed of ample means. He has been a strong supporter of the Liberal party.

SLIGHT ERROR

Humphreys Not Out for Chief Justice.

Paul Neumann a Candidate for That Honor and Andrews' Partner For a Lesser One.

Abram S. Humphreys, attorney at law, has not made any effort to gain the appointment of chief justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Hawaii. Humphreys does not aspire to that exalted position, will not try to get it, would not take it if it were offered to him and wants people to know that his head is of its normal size.

The Star of last Saturday said that Humphreys' campaign for the chief justiceship was being managed by Geo. D. Gear. The Star said:

The petition now being arranged will be forwarded to Washington and will ask directly for the shoes of Chief Justice Judd, who has already resigned.



HON. PAUL NEUMANN.

ed. It is understood that Mr. Gear laid the groundwork for the project before leaving the national capital. As matters now seem, Mr. Humphreys will without a doubt, be appointed if petitions control.

Humphreys denied the truth of the Star's statement yesterday and said, "I am not a candidate for the chief justiceship. I am a candidate for an associate justiceship, of which there will be three. Some days ago, George Gear, a warm friend of mine, without my knowledge or consent, circulated a petition among the members of the bar, asking the administration at Washington to make me a justice of the Supreme Court."

"It was kind of Gear to do this and I shall certainly back up his efforts and those of my well-wishers who signed the petition. I understand that about 70 per cent of the active members of the bar put their names to the petition. I shall make every endeavor to gratify my friends. I want very much to be a justice of the Supreme bench but I have not the exalted opinion of myself that the 'grapevine' in the Star might lead one to believe."

"There are more deserving lawyers than myself for the candidacy in question. My choice is Judge Frear. Only a few minutes ago a man told me that Paul Neumann was out for the position. A petition in his behalf is in circulation, said my informant. I feel sure that the general sentiment of the bar is for Judge Frear. For myself, I shall work vigorously for the minor seat on the bench."

Humphreys' assertions are proven by a talk with his friends. They say that they will be satisfied if he is given an associate justiceship, and that that is what they are seeking. Judge Perry, of the Circuit Court, is also ambitious to be a Supreme Court Justice, if rumor does not speak falsely. He, too, has friends and they are planning his campaign quietly but determinedly.

Paul Neumann, speaking for himself, expressed surprise at the energy of those who would make him Chief Justice.

"I have been indisposed for some days," said Neumann, "and have not been noting much of the current gossip. I am not a candidate, but of course a lawyer will take anything valuable he can get."

Paul Neumann is one of the best-known lawyers in the Hawaiian Islands. He is as prominent in San Francisco, where he was one of the founders of the Bohemian Club and highly esteemed. He has always been a leader in politics and at the bar. But his genius for litigation and his political sagacity, though great, are equaled by his rare good sense, his generosity, genial spirit and honesty of purpose and effort. That he will make a strong contestant for the honors his friends would thrust on him, is a matter of course.

Cane Field Burnt.

WAIMANALO, March 12, 1900.—On Thursday last a cane fire occurred at Waimanalo in which about seventy acres were burnt. There was a high westerly wind at the time and a spark from the locomotive ignited the trash on the western edge of the cane. Within one hour the whole field was consumed. Manager G. Chalmers thinks that by grinding night and day there will be no loss. At this date one-third of the burnt cane has been ground.

A new monthly will be published soon in Honolulu by Mrs. Helen Wilder Craft in the interests of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. It will be called the "Humane Educator," and yesterday Mrs. Craft received many advance subscriptions. It is her hope that sufficient profits will be realized from the magazine to support the society without other solicitation of friends.